

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Transportation Cabinet to erect a sign on  
2 United States Highway 23 denoting Greenup County as the "Home of 1984 Kentucky  
3 Poet Laureate Clarence 'Soc' Clay."

4 WHEREAS, Soc Clay is a South Shore native who began writing about the  
5 outdoors in 1961; and

6 WHEREAS, Soc Clay was a steelworker at the time, and he struggled to break into  
7 the market. His first job was writing for the Portsmouth Times; and

8 WHEREAS, by the 70's Soc Clay had established himself in the outdoor world of  
9 writing as a full-time freelance outdoor photojournalist. Clay's byline and photo credits  
10 have appeared in every major publication in North America that covers outdoor  
11 recreation. Over the years, he has served as a masthead editor for a variety of  
12 publications, including *Outdoor Life*, *Fins & Feathers*, *Bassin'*, *Ohio Fisherman*, *Fishing*  
13 *Facts*, *Action Bass*, *Heartland USA Magazine*, *Bass*, *Ohio Sportsman*, *Cabela's Outfitter*  
14 *Journal Magazine*, and many others; and

15 WHEREAS, Soc Clay is considered a master of outdoor photography. His images  
16 appear in publications around the globe. He is recognized as one of the most talented  
17 freshwater fishing photographers in the world; and

18 WHEREAS, Soc Clay has received dozens of prestigious national, regional, and  
19 local awards for his work in outdoor photojournalism. Among his most treasured are the  
20 Lifetime Achievement Award and the heralded Tom Rollins Award presented by the  
21 Southeastern Outdoor Press Association. In 1983, Clay was named Kentucky Poet  
22 Laureate; he is the first outdoor communicator ever to receive such distinction; and

23 WHEREAS, in 2003, Soc Clay was inducted into the National Freshwater Fishing  
24 Hall of Fame as a Legendary Communicator. He is the first photojournalist in history to  
25 receive this highly prestigious honor. In October 2003, he was inducted into the Legends  
26 of the Outdoors Hall of Fame as a legendary photojournalist; and

27 WHEREAS, Soc and his wife Wanda, along with Stormy, their yellow Lab, live in

1 a log cabin in a deep fold of the Appalachians in eastern Kentucky;

2 NOW, THEREFORE,

3 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➡Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet is hereby directed to erect a sign at the  
5 intersection of United States Highway 23 and Main Street in South Shore, Kentucky  
6 declaring Greenup County as the "Home of 1984 Kentucky Poet Laureate Clarence 'Soc'  
7 Clay" and shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this Resolution, erect the  
8 appropriate signage.